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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below:

June 14, 2004 Date

Gina N. Shishima

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Xiang, et al.

Serial No.: 09/828,498

Filed: April 5, 2001

For: FULL-LENGTH GB VIRUS C

(HEPATITIS G VIRUS) RNA

TRANSCRIPTS ARE INFECTIOUS IN PRIMARY CD4 POSITIVE T CELLS AND METHODS OF TREATING HIV

Group Art Unit: 1648

Examiner: Winkler, Ulrike

Atty. Dkt. No.: IOWA:030/GNS

I. AMENDMENT; AND II. RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED FEBRUARY 13, 2004

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Commissioner:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated February 13, 2004 for which the three-month date for response was May 13, 2004.

A request for a one-month extension of time to respond is included herewith along with the required fee. This extension will bring the due date to June 14, 2004 (since June 13, 2004 fell on a weekend), which is within the six-month statutory period. Should such request or fee be deficient or absent, consider this paragraph such a request and authorization to withdraw the

appropriate fee under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 from Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P. Account No.: 50-1212/IOWA:030US.

A Listing of Claims is provided at page 3 of this paper; Remarks begin at page 6.



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Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re:

SN 09/828,498 entitled "Full-Length GB Virus C (Hepatitis G Virus) RNA Transcripts are Infectious in Primary CD4 Positive T Cells and Methods of

Treating HIV" by Xiang et al.

Our ref: IOWA:030US Client ref: UIRF MO-46

Commissioner:

Please find enclosed the following for filing in the above patent application:

- Amendment and Response to Office Action Dated February 13, 2004; (1)
- (2) Request for Extension of Time;
- \$110 check for the fee for the extension of time; and (3)
- (4) A return postcard to acknowledge receipt of these materials. Please date stamp and mail this postcard.

If the check is inadvertently omitted, or the amount is insufficient, or should any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to the enclosed materials, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct said fees from Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P. Account No.: 50-1212/IOWA:030US.

Very truly yours,

Gina N. Shishima

Reg. No. 45,104

GNS/lb Enclosures

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